

To: **Social Studies Honors Students 2011-2012**
From: **B. Montana, S. Edmunds and B. Guenther**
RE: Honors Social Studies Field Trip to Washington, D.C.
Date: February 21, 2012

As an Honors Social Studies student, you have the opportunity to participate in a **field trip to Washington, D.C. on Friday March 30, 2012**. We will depart from the high school at 5:45am and return to the high school about 11:00 - 11:30pm. **You will need to pre-pay \$55 for transportation and one meal (dinner). The day of the trip, you will need your own money to pay for your lunch.** Please read through the proposed itinerary and determine if you are able to participate. Permission forms will be distributed in early-March and will be due with full payment by March 8th. In the mean time, you can begin to formulate your group with which you will spend much of the day and rank your choices of sights.

Two fundraisers have been completed, Apple Dumplings in October and candy bars in February. See your teacher for any amount you have raised. \$55 - _____ = \$ _____.

This trip is a biannual event. Two years ago we took 82 students. It is a great opportunity to visit our nation's capital and experience some of what makes it one of the most admired cities of the world. We have the "double edged" opportunity of visiting during the famed cherry blossom season. Lots of beauty and lots of people!!

[<http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/cms/index.php?id=404>](http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/cms/index.php?id=404)

The next trip will be in the spring of 2014.

The District of Columbia sits on a ten mile square site selected by George Washington himself and carved from the states of Virginia and Maryland in 1790. A Frenchman and American Revolution veteran, Pierre L'Enfant was employed to plan the city for \$2500 (the cost of our busses in 2012!!). He shocked many at the time by planning streets that were up to 110 feet wide with one grand avenue 400 feet wide and over a mile long. At the center of the plan, the Capitol building was to sit on the prominent Jenkins Hill. A second hill, one and one-half miles away, was to be the location of the proposed "President's Palace." These two branches of government were to be connected by the 160 foot wide Pennsylvania Avenue. L'Enfant used a simple pattern of numbers and letters to identify the less prominent streets, and the system has remained in effect. [<http://dcpages.com/History/Planning DC.shtml>](http://dcpages.com/History/Planning DC.shtml)

We hope that this trip will be both fun and educational. Take the time to use the on-line resources given and investigate the sites of DC. Find several unique facts you can share with your group, find out details you can look for when you are there in person, and generate some questions to ask. As with much in life and learning, the more effort you put into this experience, the more you will get in return. We anticipate a great experience given your capabilities, as well as, the rich cultural and historic nature of the city.

You will be divided into groups for the day and assigned a chaperon. You are expected to remain with your chaperon and/or abide by their check-in procedures. Please take the time to look at the itinerary and investigate the different destination options available. Group consensus will determine the destination of walking tour or museum.

Lastly, you earned this opportunity through your dedication to challenge yourself academically and intellectually. Please continue to distinguish yourself with thoughtful consideration of your attire and your behavior for the day. Respect the people, monuments and nature of the city, as well as, your fellow visitors. You represent yourself, your family, school and community while visiting this international city. As usual, we expect the best from you and trust you'll make the right choices.

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